The Shape of Repetition · 150 × 190 cm · The Unwritten Laws, Chapter II

Sources and verification

Source and method

NOAA HURDAT2 east Pacific best tracks 1949 to 2025. Windows of 8 fixes (42 h), rotation-normalised; a 6-dimensional variational autoencoder fit on all east Pacific storms; six clusters (k-means, seed 0) of the local set; archetype = decoded centroid chained with heading continuity; layout = classical MDS of centroid distances; relation lines = within-storm transition probabilities above 1/6. Preregistered and sealed (PREREG.md, SEAL.jsonl). The learned model did not beat PCA or hand-crafted baselines on the sealed predictive test, so no claim is made that AI perceived an order. Label: interpreted; computational work.

What was kept, changed and invented

Kept: Every vertex of all sixteen lines, the layout, the true relative scale of the six arcs.

Changed: One ink for both line classes; warm dark on mustard; a rubbed-pigment surface.

Invented: Nothing in the geometry. The form is a model's representation of real motion, not a storm.

Verification

All sixteen source lines (six archetypes, ten relations) are covered 100 percent within 2.5 px and 99.995 percent of ink lies inside the line-mask tolerance; mirrored and archetype-deleted copies fail (Independent_Fidelity_Results.json, 2026-11-18). This version draws both line classes in one ink; the class identities remain in the vector file.

Label

INTERPRETED. Interpreted from recorded storm motion

Credits

Art by Addie Conner. Surfaces by an AI image model (OpenAI), under geometry checks. Generators, checks and provenance records by AI agents (Claude) in the studio. Data: NOAA, USGS/Landsat, ESA Sentinel-2, the La Saladita weather station. Published 2026.